Reference

Calendar No. 1095

82D CONGRESS, 2d Session | SENATE | REPORT No. 1164

AGE REQUIREMENTS IN COMPETITIVE CIVIL SERVICE APPOINTMENTS

FEBRUARY 11 (legislative day, JANUARY 10) 1952.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. PASTORE, from the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 194]

The Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, to whom was referred the bill (S. 194) to prohibit age requirements or limitations with respect to the appointment of persons to positions in the competitive civil service during periods of war or national emergency, having considered the same, report favorably thereon, with amendments, and recommend that the bill, as amended, do pass.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the bill is to afford the Government full use of available manpower during periods of war or national emergency notwithstanding any regulations or administrative policies which normally may consider, as a qualifying factor, the age of an applicant for appointment to a position in the civil service. Further, the bill recognizes the need in some instances of saving or establishing age limitations for certain positions by authorizing the Civil Service Commission to except such positions from the provisions of the bill.

The proposed legislation provides that during any period of war or national emergency proclaimed by the President, no requirement or limitation of age shall be imposed with respect to the appointment of persons to positions in the competitive civil service except such positions as may from time to time be removed from the operation of the bill by the Civil Service Commission.

AMENDMENTS

Add at the end of line 4 the word "maximum".

At the end of line 9, strike the period and insert in lieu thereof a colon and add the following proviso:

Provided, That no person who has reached his seventieth birthday shall be appointed in the competitive civil service on other than a temporary basis.

These are merely perfecting amendments.

Attached hereto and made a part of this report are letters from the Civil Service Commission and the Bureau of the Budget interposing no objection to the enactment of this legislation.

UNITED STATES CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION,
Washington 25, D. C., March 20, 1951.

Hon. OLIN D. JOHNSTON,
Chairman, Post Office and Civil Service Committee,
United States Senate, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SENATOR JOHNSTON: In response to your letter of January 17, 1951, the Commission would have no objection to the enactment of S. 194, a bill to prohibit age requirements or limitations with respect to the appointment of persons to positions in the competitive civil service during periods of war or national emergency.

It is the general practice of the Commission, during periods of national emergency and war, to encourage the employment by the Federal agencies of qualified older people It is felt that this group constitute a valuable addition to the labor force in a period of emergency when the productive services of all citizens are necessary. There are, of course, many positions in the Federal service in which older persons would not be interested and for which they would not be suited. However, the bill gives the Commission sufficient flexibility that it can make the necessary determinations in this field.

The Bureau of the Budget advises us that there is no objection to the submission of the report to the committee.

By direction of the Commission:

Sincerely yours,

ROBERT RAMSPECK, *Chairman.*

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,
BUREAU OF THE BUDGET,
Washington 25, D. C., March 12, 1951.

Hon. OLIN D. JOHNSTON,
Chairman, Committee on Post Office and Civil Service,
United States Senate, Washington 25, D. C.

MY DEAR SENATOR JOHNSTON: This is in answer to your letter of January 12, 1951, inviting the Bureau to comment on S. 194 to prohibit age requirements or limitations with respect to the appointment of persons to positions in the competitive civil service during periods of war or national emergency.

The purpose of this bill is to provide that during any period of war or national emergency no requirement or limitation of age shall be imposed with respect to the appointment of persons to positions in the competitive civil service, except as the Civil Service Commission may prescribe.

The proposal permits the Civil Service Commission to exercise its discretion with respect to the age requirements and limitations, and, since it is the general practice of the Civil Service Commission to encourage the employment of older persons during periods of national emergency, the Bureau of the Budget is not aware of any reason why this proposal should not be favorably considered by your committee.

Sincerely yours,

ELMER B. STAATS, *Assistant Director.*

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